

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 05444 111925Z
ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T GENEVA 05444

EXDIS

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING NO. 206, APRIL 10, 1978
(SALT TWO 2123)

SUMMARY: SIDES DISCUSSED SOVIET APRIL 5 PROPOSALS ON
ASBMS AND KARPOV ADDRESSED QUESTIONS POSED BY PEREZ
APRIL 7. KARPOV NOTED SIDES ARE CLOSE ON SEVERAL ASPECTS
OF QUESTION. HE TABLED NEW DRAFT OF ARTICLE VIII WHICH
CONTINUES TO BAN CONVERSION OF NON-HEAVY BOMBER AIRCRAFT
TO CARRY CRUISE MISSILES OR ASBMS, CITING VERIFICATION AS
RATIONALE. END SUMMARY.

1. SIDES CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF SOVIET APRIL 5 PROPOSAL
ON ASBMS. KARPOV NOTED SIDES IN AGREEMENT OR CLOSE TO
AGREEMENT ON SEVERAL ASPECTS OF SUBJECT AND ADDRESSED
QUESTIONS POSED BY PEREZ APRIL 7. KARPOV PRESENTED
RATIONALE FOR SOVIET POSITIONS, INDICATING FLEXIBILITY ON
POSSIBLE INCLUSION OF PROVISION DEALING WITH MIRVED ASBMS
ALONG LINES OF US PROPOSAL FOR ARTICLE VI.4.

2. KARPOV TABLED WORKING PAPER WITH REVISED TEXT OF
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ARTICLE VIII WITH CRUISE MISSILES AND ASBMS TREATED IN
PARALLEL FASHION IN SEPARATE PARAGRAPHS AS FOLLOWS
(OFFICIAL TRANSLATION):

"THE PARTIES UNDERTAKE NOT TO FLIGHT-TEST CRUISE MISSILES
CAPABLE OF A RANGE IN EXCESS OF 600 KILOMETERS FROM AIR-
CRAFT OTHER THAN HEAVY BOMBERS, AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH 3

OF ARTICLE II, OR TO CONVERT SUCH AIRCRAFT FOR EQUIPPING THEM WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED MISSILES.

"THE PARTIES UNDERTAKE NOT TO FLIGHT-TEST ASBMS FROM AIRCRAFT OTHER THAN HEAVY BOMBERS AS DEFINED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE II, OR TO CONVERT SUCH AIRCRAFT FOR EQUIPPING THEM WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED MISSILES."

PEREZ QUESTIONED RATIONALE FOR BAN ON CONVERSION OF NON-HEAVY BOMBER AIRCRAFT IN CASE OF ASBMS SINCE EACH LONG-RANGE ASBM WOULD COUNT IN AGGREGATE. KARPOV ALLEGED CONVERTED NON-HEAVY BOMBER AIRCRAFT WOULD PRESENT VERIFICATION PROBLEMS, WHEREAS NUMBER AND OTHER FEATURES OF HEAVY BOMBERS ARE WELL-KNOWN TO SIDES.

3. CONFORMING SUB-GROUP WILL PREPARE NEW JDT BY FRIDAY, APRIL 14. NEXT MEETING OF DRAFTING GROUP TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO PRECEDE FRIDAY PLENARY, DEPENDING UPON PROGRESS IN THE SUB-GROUP. EARLE

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Message Attributes

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